

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 7 with the following rewritten version:

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. ~~2000-23452~~ 2000-234592 discloses an example of prior art relating to a rotary compressor used for refrigeration and air-conditioning. The rotary compressor includes, in a casing, a motor and a compressor element which receives torque of the motor via a crankshaft and compresses refrigerant gas. As shown in FIGS. 13 and 14, the compressor element is constructed of a tubular cylinder 51 whose ends are sealed by plates 52 and 53 and a piston 54 which is arranged in the tubular cylinder and includes an integral roller 54a and blade 54b. In the compressor element, a compression chamber 60 is defined by the cylinder 51, plates 52 and 53 and piston 54. The cylinder 51 is provided with a low pressure port 56 and the upper plate 52 is provided with a high pressure port 58. In response to the rotation of the crankshaft 59, the piston 54 swings in the cylinder 51. As a result, refrigerant gas sucked through the low pressure port 56 is compressed in the compression chamber 60 and the compressed refrigerant gas is discharged through the high pressure port 58.